State Guidance for the Reopening of School

- Reopening plans will be informed by local public health recommendations and state guidance

- Governor Northam’s announcement provides detailed guidance: Recover, Redesign, Restart 2020

- State guidance addresses:
  - Date(s) and conditions for lifting school closures
  - Use of CARES Act funding
  - Reopening planning scenarios for summer and fall
  - Flexibility in phasing for key regions/localities based on health guidance
Essential Starting Points

Key priorities for reopening plans are to:

• Provide a safe learning and work environment for all students and staff
• Provide equity of access to technology and internet at home for all students
• Ensure the well-being of students and staff through a robust Tiered System of Support
• Provide a phased approach with flexibility of support to students, families, and staff in higher risk categories for infection
• Set consistent expectations across schools through strong communication and community engagement during planning and implementation
Health and Safety Measures

• Ensure six-foot distance requirements are met within classrooms
• Increase daily health screening and internal contact tracing
• Limit sharing by keeping each student’s belongings separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers
• Teach and reinforce use of face coverings among all staff and students
• Teach and reinforce washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, and have adequate supplies to support health hygiene behaviors
• Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces within the school and on buses at least daily and between use for shared items
• Explored a possible hybrid model of limited in-person and distance learning for our most vulnerable populations this summer, per guidance from VDOE.

• Opted to continue with Distance Learning for Summer Program

• English language development courses for secondary English Learners (EL) via synchronous distance learning.

• Increased virtual teacher check-ins for K-3rd grade students, scaffolded to support EL students.

• Virtual Extended School Year services for special education students.

• Meal service will continue through the summer to ensure families have access to food while school is not in session.

• School-based social-emotional supports for our vulnerable students will continue.
Three scenarios being considered for opening on August 31, 2020, depending on state guidance:
   - Distance learning
   - Hybrid in-person and distance learning
   - In-person

Coordinating closely with regional superintendents to align our plans closely based on Northern Virginia phasing

Work Groups are established to lead planning in four areas:
   - Instruction, Operations, Activities and Communications

Stakeholder Task Force formed to ensure staff, student and parent input throughout planning and decision-making
Task Force for Reopening of Schools

• ELT and Principal Chairs
• Staff, teacher, parent and student representatives from designated APS advisory committees
• Diverse group representing a variety of schools, communities, grade levels, student groups and needs
• Coordinating with staff liaisons and chairs
  • 7-10 teachers and staff / 7-10 parents/ 5-6 students
• Launched June 10; meeting weekly

Advisory Groups
- School Health Advisory Board (SHAB)
- Safety Audit Committee (SAC)
- Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning (ACTL)
- Employee Advisory Committee (EAC)
- Arlington Special Education Advisory Committee (ASEAC)
- Student Advisory Board (SAB)
- Superintendent’s Advisory Committee on Equity and Excellence
- Superintendent’s Committee on Immigration and Refugees
- County Council of PTAs (CCPTA)
- Arlington Education Association (AEA)
- Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)
- Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)
Community Engagement

Community Surveys of Staff, Students and Families
• Gather feedback on distance learning and reopening plans
  • June 3-10: Student and Staff Survey
  • June 8-15: Family Survey (English, Spanish, Amharic, Arabic and Mongolian)

APS Engage: Reopening Status Updates
• Engage page established
• Weekly community updates on planning
• Board meeting Monitoring Reports through the fall
• Input submitted through Engage@apsva.us is shared directly with Work Groups based on topic
# Planning Timeline

## Mid April - May
- Work Group established
- Initial planning framework established
- Scenario planning
- End of year and summer learning plans finalized

## June
- State guidance anticipated week of June 8
- June 3: Student/Staff Survey
- June 5: Task Force finalized
- June 8: Family Survey
- June 10: Superintendents’ Coordination Call
- June 15: Staff training and professional development
- Town Halls

## Late June/Early July
- Plan finalized and presented at School Board meeting
- Ongoing communications and community engagement
- Activities and Athletics Communication

## August
- Plan implementation
- Communications for start of school
- Administrator and staff training and professional development
APS strives to celebrate the differences of all our students and strongly condemns violence and racism. To our African American students and staff, and all persons of color in our community, we want you to know that we support you, we believe in you, and we stand in solidarity with you.

We will continue to work together with our community to confront racial injustice by encouraging inclusivity, respect and compassion for one another, and first and foremost, by truly listening to each other.
• The FY 2021 Original Proposed Budget:
  • Included additional County revenue of $23.8 million plus $3.7 million in one-time funding
  • Had a funding gap of $27.5 million even with the above revenue
• The Coronavirus impact significantly affected County revenue
  • New revenue estimates provided only $2.2 million to Schools
• The reduction in revenue resulted in a new funding gap of $53 million
• Many reductions were implemented to help close this gap
• APS will likely see additional revenue reductions in the FY 2021 budget which will require further reductions or additional funding
CIP and the Uncertain Budget Situation

Changing Economic Environment Creating Uncertainty in the County

• The impact of COVID-19 has significantly reduced Arlington County’s revenues

• The County will not prepare estimates for future years’ revenue at this time
  − APS and the County both need these estimates to build their 10-year Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)

• County has a revised multi-phased approach to capital planning
  − Spring 2020: Short-term FY 2021 CIP
  − Spring 2021: Medium-term CIP for 3-6 years
  − Spring 2022: Intent is to return to typical ten-year capital planning process

• The County will submit a short-term proposed FY 2021 CIP on June 16 which will:
  − Focus on essential projects and those required under existing agreements or statutory requirements
  − Include a limited list of investments, including near-term APS needs
Changing and Uncertain Economic Environment Impacts APS Planning

• The fluidity of the economic situation has made it impossible to forecast what will happen next week or next month, let alone next year, even while we continue to experience enrollment growth each year

• Enrollment estimates for 2020-21 continue to increase
  – APS expects to add about 1,100 more students from 2019-20, a 4% increase
  – This will raise total enrollment to more than 29,100 students

• Additionally, it is not possible in this uncertain environment to estimate cost escalation for capital projects to be completed in future years

• The FY 2021 APS CIP process is focused on near-term needs